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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/711,595

09/28/2004

David R. Hall

66.0078

5594

38046

7590

09/06/2006

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EXAMINER

HARCOURT, BRAD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3672

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/711,595	HALL ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Brad Harcourt	3672	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-8, 10-11, 13-16, 18-20, and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5,9,12,17 and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9/28/04 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/30/2006</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                                    |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Line 3 of claim 14 states that the receptacle "comprises an open end and an end." For the purposes of examination it is assumed that the claim was intended to read "comprises an open end and a closed end."

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Beimgraben (US Patent No. 4,495,073).

Beimgraben discloses a drilling screen apparatus 10 comprising conical screen receptacle 14 including perforations 14a, an open end and a closed end; linkage 15 attaching receptacle 14 to mandrel 16; interface 17 attached to mandrel 16 for engagement with top hole equipment 18 to facilitate disengagement of apparatus 10; and support ring 12 connected to the open end of receptacle 14. Support ring 12 is detachably connected to hanger 11 that engages the drill pipe bore wall 1d and

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provides support for the apparatus 10. Support ring 12 connects to mounting collar 11 by shear pins 13. In reference to claim 4, the screen is understood to be perforated throughout, including the bottom portion. In reference to claims 10, 11, 19 and 20, linkage 15 rigidly secures the mandrel to the support ring and is considered to be a strut.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8, 14-16, 18-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beimgraben (US Patent No. 4,495,073) in view of Camp (US Patent No. 2764388).

Beimgraben discloses all of the limitations of the above claims with the exception of a stationary member and a telescoping member providing support for the drilling filter. Camp discloses a drilling system comprising drill system 1 that is detachable from lowering tool 37. Tool 37 interacts with drill assembly by linkage recesses 36 that are attached to mandrel 8 by spring members 31. Recesses are actuated in or out of engagement with tool 37 by telescopic motion of mandrel 8 in relation to stationary member 50. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a telescopic support system on the filter system of Beimgraben in view of Camp to make the filter selectably releasable from its support.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 5, 9, 12, 17 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

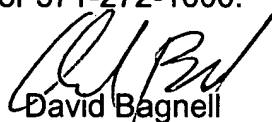
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Mashburn (US Patent No. 6598685) discloses a filter system with a telescoping tool that engages and removes the filter but is not integrally connected to it.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brad Harcourt whose telephone number is 571-272-7303. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bagnell can be reached on 571-272-6999. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



David Bagnell  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3672

BH  
8/30/06